



# Iowa Department of Human Services

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Governor

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Director

## INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1673-MC

**DATE:** May 25, 2016

**TO:** Iowa Medicaid Hospitals, Physicians, Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners, Clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), Rural Health Clinics (RHCs), Certified Nurse Mid-wives (CMN), and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)

**FROM:** Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

**RE:** IA Health Link Newborn Coverage

**EFFECTIVE:** April 1, 2016

The IA Health Link managed care program began on April 1, 2016. This letter is intended to clarify the coverage of newborn infants under the IA Health Link program.

In situations where an MCO enrolled Medicaid member gives birth, the newborn is automatically enrolled with the mother's MCO. The member must notify the MCO of the birth and follow the MCO's policies. Please refer to the MCO training materials and provider manuals on the DHS website under [Managed Care Organization \(MCO\) Specific Materials](#)<sup>1</sup>.

Automatic assignment to the mother's MCO is done only after the Medicaid enrolled mother has completed the necessary enrollment application with the DHS Income Maintenance Worker. All DHS enrollment processes should continue to be followed.

Once the newborn is determined eligible and the MCO assignment has occurred, the member will also have a 90 day tentative assignment process if the mother or guardian chooses to change to a different MCO. Choosing a different MCO during this period may be done without cause.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909 or by email at [imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us).

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<sup>1</sup> <https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/about/initiatives/MedicaidModernization/MCO-materials>